GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1509
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
RUBBER BOARD
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of latex and sheets of natural rubber differs;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantity of rubber being made available by the farmers for each of the said category;

(c) whether the Rubber Board is encouraging the difference in pricing;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the recent policy of the Board in this regard;

(e) whether the farmers are free to make and sell natural rubber in the form of their choice;

(f) if not, whether any restriction is being made or suggested by the Board in this regard; and

g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) and (b) : The price of natural rubber latex and sheet rubber differs. In India, fresh latex is processed into Ribbed Smoked Sheet (RSS) and centrifuged latex. RSS 4 is the most commonly accepted grade in domestic and world markets. The price of RSS and centrifuged latex differs because of the differences in cost of processing, technology, investment etc. The price of centrifuged latex also depends on its dry rubber content (drc), which can be 60 per cent and above. During the year 2006-07, the average price of RSS 4 was Rs. 92.04 per kg. and Rs. 111.90 per kg. in respect of latex (60% drc). During the year 2006-07, the production of sheet rubber and centrifuged latex was 612735 tonnes and 86780 tonnes respectively.

(c): No, sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): Yes, sir.

(f) and (g): Do not arise.